Illinois Department of Corrections inmates benefit from language education by volunteer organizations

By Yvonne Zipp May 12, 2013

A partnership among several organizations and the University of Illinois is teaching foreign languages to inmates from the Danville Correctional Center.

Language Partners, a prisoner-created bilingual education program works in collaboration with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. U of I Associate Professor Rebecca Ginsburg is Director of the Education Justice Project, which runs Language Partners.

Professor Ginsburg credits the Illinois Department of Corrections for the key role it plays in the success of the Language Partners program. That role was recognized when Language Partners recently won a Global Prize for Collaborative Social Justice Leadership Award, a very prestigious International honor.

"One of the award jurors commented on the high level of cooperation we were receiving from the Danville Correctional Center and IDOC. Thank you, Director Godinez, Warden Anglin and Governor Quinn, for your support," Ms. Ginsburg said.



Represented in this photo with Danville CC inmates are: The University of Illinois, the Dalia Foundation, Language Partners, Restaurant Workers Association and the Education Justice Project.